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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2005 No. 176**

**The Children's Homes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005**

**PART VI**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Offences**

**40.**—(1) A contravention of the provisions of regulations 4 to 37 shall be an offence.

(2) The Regulation and Improvement Authority shall not bring proceedings against a person in respect of any contravention of those regulations unless –

- (a) subject to paragraph (4), he is a registered person;
- (b) notice has been given to him in accordance with paragraph (3);
- (c) the period specified in the notice, within which the registered person may make representations to the Regulation and Improvement Authority, has expired; and
- (d) in a case where, in accordance with paragraph (3)(b), the notice specifies any action that is to be taken within a specified period, the period has expired and the action has not been taken within that period.

(3) Where the Regulation and Improvement Authority considers that the registered person has contravened any of the provisions of the regulations mentioned in paragraph (1), it may serve a notice on the registered person specifying –

- (a) in what respect in its opinion the registered person has contravened any of the regulations;
- (b) where it is practicable for the registered person to take action for the purpose of complying with any of those regulations, the action which, in the opinion of the Regulation and Improvement Authority, the registered person should take for that purpose;
- (c) the period, not exceeding three months, within which the registered person should take any action specified in accordance with sub-paragraph (b); and
- (d) the period, not exceeding one month, within which the registered person may make representations to the Regulation and Improvement Authority about the notice.

(4) The Regulation and Improvement Authority may bring proceedings against a person who was once, but no longer is, a registered person, in respect of a failure to comply with regulation 27(3) or 28(2) and for this purpose, references in paragraphs (2) and (3) to a registered person shall be taken to include such a person.